GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2771
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008
ADOLESCENT MOTHERHOOD
Maharia Shri Subhash

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of adolescents below 15 years of age who attained motherhood during the last three years; and

(b) the remedial measures taken/ proposed to be taken to discourage to be the mother at a tender-age?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) According to the NFHS-III Survey (2005-06), the proportion of women aged 15-19 years (during the period of survey) who had attained motherhood by the age of 15 years is 1.2 per cent.

(b) Under the National Adolescent Health Strategy, there is a focus on educating and counselling the adolescent girls in the age group 10-19 years from attaining early motherhood. This is done by advocating behaviour change on issues such as age at marriage and delaying marriage till they attain at least the legal age of marriage. Service package at public health outposts aim to provide information on importance of spacing and contraception, fertility awareness, counseling on RTI/STI and prevention and management of unwanted pregnancy.